

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 /085 W
-----034233 131159Z /43

R 130910Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8321
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1045

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4
TAGS: SHUM PINS LA
SUBJECT: REPORT OF "RE-EDUCATION" CAMP IN ATTOPEU

REF: 76 VIENTIANE 2574

1. A CAMBODIAN MAN WHO WAS DETAINED IN AN LPDR RE-EDUCATION CAMP IN ATTOPEU FROM ABOUT MARCH 1976 THROUGH MARCH 1977 WHEN HE WAS RELEASED FOR DEMONSTRATING A "PROPER POLITICAL ATTITUDE" DESCRIBED PRISON CAMP CONDITIONS TO EMBOFF.

2. HE SAID THAT THERE WERE TWO RE-EDUCATION CAMP SITES LOCATED ABOUT THIRTEEN KILOMETERS FROM THE CITY OF ATTOPEU WHERE FORMER ROYAL LAO ARMY (RLA) SOLDIERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE HELD, AS REPORTED REFTTEL. HIGH RANKING RLA OFFICERS WERE HELD IN A PRISON LOCATED IN ATTOPEU CITY. SOME ARMY OFFICERS HELD IN THE PRISON WERE SHACKLED ABOUT THE WAIST AND FEET BY CHAINS THAT
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WERE NEVER REMOVED.

3. SOURCE KNEW OF ONLY ONE EXECUTION OF A "RE-EDUCATION" CAMP INMATE. THREE FORMER RLA SOLDIERS ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE, BUT WERE CAPTURED. TWO OF THE THREE SUCCEEDED ON A SECOND TRY BUT THE THIRD WHO HAD CHOSEN TO REMAIN IN THE CAMP WAS EXECUTED.

4. INMATES IN THE RE-EDUCATION CAMP WORKED IN RICE FIELDS, AND ON ROAD AND IRRIGATION PROJECTS. PRISONERS ATE A MONOTONOUS DIET OF STICKY RICE AND "PADECK" OR FERMENTED FISH SAUCE. ONCE A WEEK CAMP INMATES WERE PERMITTED TRIPS TO THE LOCAL MARKET.

5. ABOUT THIRTY PERCENT OF THE CAMP INMATES WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR WIVES AND CHILDREN. ALTHOUGH SOME CHILDREN LIVING IN THE RE-EDUCATION CAMPS ATTENDED SCHOOLS IN THE NEIGHBORING VILLAGES, THERE WERE SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR MOST OF THE CAMP'S CHILDREN. A STRICT RULE, HOWEVER, PROHIBITED RE-EDUCATION CAMP INMATES AND THEIR ADULT CHILDREN FROM MARRYING LOCAL VILLAGERS.
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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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